

State of New Mexico

Legislative Council Service

411 State Capitol, Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501

(505) 986-4600 Fax: (505) 986-4680

Information Memorandum

DATE: July 10, 2014

DISCUSSION DRAFT

TO: Representative Cathrynn N. Brown

FROM: Carolyn Peck

SUBJECT: EDDY AND LEA COUNTIES ROAD SURVEY

You have requested a summary of the Eddy and Lea counties road survey. The following memorandum is submitted in compliance with that request. Any opinions expressed are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the New Mexico Legislative Council or any other member of its staff.

Synthesis of Eddy and Lea Counties Road Survey

Out of 263 responses, below are the number of responses expressing a need for improvement for each highway.

Highway	Number of Responses
82 Artesia - Lovington	116 Needs to be 4 lanes.
529 Loco Hills/Malja mar - Hobbs	67
176 Halfway - Eunice	20
285 Texas border (via Malaga - Las Cruces) to Carlsbad/Artesia	
62/180	52
229	8
70	2
128	11
331	1
167	1
360	11
8	2
21	1
180	1
31	4
216	1
579	1

In addition, there were 20 responses stating that the roads in Eddy and Lea counties were in need of repair, without specifically naming which roads.

The responses included references to non-highway roads that need improvement, listed below.

Derrick Rd.

Old Cavern Highway

Callaway

East Orchard Lane

Pipeline Rd. W

Kincaid Ranch Rd.

Four Dinkus Rd.

Delaware Basin Rd.

Refinery Rd.

East Mill Rd.

County Rd.

East Cimarron Rd.

Lake Rd. East

Canal St.

John D. Forehand Rd.

St. Line Rd.

White Pine Rd.

Hilltop Rd.

Illinois Camp Rd.

Old Loco Rd.

Hagerman Cutoff Rd.

Shugart Rd.

Comb Rd.

Box Canyon Rd.

Marathon Rd.

Duarte Rd.

Ponderosa Pine Rd.

Dark Canyon Rd.

.197468

Jones Rd.
McKittrick Rd.
Hidalgo Rd.
Calvani Rd.
Ferguson Rd.
Tidwell Rd.
Odgen Rd.
Black River Rd.
Forni Rd.
Bramble Rd.
Harroun Rd.
Bounds Rd.
Halderman Rd.
Means Rd.
Roadrunner Rd.
Twin Wells Rd.
Dog Town Rd.
Rawhide Rd.
Red Rd.
Mobley Ranch Rd.
Longhorn Rd.
Grandi Rd.
Hermosa St.

51 county roads

Suggested Physical Improvements

- Seventy-one people suggested four-lane highways, in reference to Highways 82, 62/180, 529 and 176.
- Thirty people suggested that the highways need to be widened.
- Thirty-seven people commented on the surface quality of the roads, stating that they need repair. The quality of the roads were described with such phrases as "cracks in

the asphalt", "pavement inconsistencies", "worn out", "rough", "major potholes" and "deteriorating driving surface".

- Seventy-two people mentioned highway shoulders in their responses, stating that they need to be added or widened.

Suggested Safety Improvements

- Forty-two people commented on speed limits. Some commented that the speed limit should be reduced on the highways with the worst conditions; some said that the speed limit should be increased in these areas because low speed limits cause drivers to attempt to pass each other in dangerous ways; and some said that the speed limits should be kept the same and that they will be appropriate when the roads are repaired.
- Twelve people stated that signage could be improved, some commenting that speed limit signs are not large enough.
- Nine people stated that safety corridors would be appropriate.
- Seventy-five people stated that they had witnessed a fatal accident, had been in a fatal accident themselves, knew someone who had been in a fatal accident or had several near misses in which they almost got into a fatal accident themselves.
- Twenty people stated that increased law enforcement patrols would improve safety for the roads.

General Comments

Nearly every person who responded to the survey mentioned that the roads currently could not support the large amount of oil field traffic that occurs daily in Eddy and Lea counties.